

A3  
cont'd

12. (New) The electric adapter as claimed in claim 11, wherein the plurality of electrical parameters indicated on the display unit comprises present time, voltage value, current value, watt, kilowatt-hour, apparent power value, and power factor.

13. (New) The electric adapter as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a power on/off switch arranged on the housing for turning on/off the adapter and a displaying mode selection switch arranged on the housing. --.

---

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Japanese Patent No. 54-38587 taken in view of Lebby *et al.* (5,225,816). Claims 5 and 6 are objected to as depending from a rejected claim, but are indicated as being otherwise allowable.

A Change of Address is enclosed herewith setting the new address of Applicant's local attorneys. It is requested that all further correspondence regarding this matter be forwarded to Applicant's attorneys at their new address.

Applicant has added new Claims 7-13 to this application. New independent Claim 7 corresponds to a combination of original Claims 1, 4 and 5, thereby redrafting Claim 5 in independent form, while new independent Claim 11 corresponds to a combination of original Claims 1, 4 and 6 thereby redrafting Claim 6 in independent form. New dependent Claims 8, 9, 12 and 13 correspond to original Claims 2 and 3, but depend from either new independent Claim 7, or new independent Claim 11. Since the Examiner has indicated that

Claims 5 and 6 contained allowable subject matter, it is submitted that new Claims 7-13 are in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant also respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. As noted above, Claim 1 has been amended to more specifically define the control circuit including a central processing unit located within the housing and to further define the display unit as displaying at least one of a plurality of electrical parameters. This claim has also been amended to include a recitation of a mode selection switch arranged on the housing and connected to the central processing unit such that the mode selection switch is operable from externally of the housing to select which of the plurality of electrical parameters is displayed on the display unit. Basis for these amendments can be found in Applicant's specification and drawings, specifically on page 3, lines 31 *et seq.* wherein it is stated that the control circuit is arranged on a circuit board inside the housing, and Figures 1-3 wherein it can be seen that the mode selection switch 6 is operable from externally of the housing 1 and is connected to the central processing unit 14. On page 3, lines 18 *et seq.* of Applicant's specification, it is noted that the displaying mode selection switch 6 selectively shows various electric data available on the display unit 4.

Claims 2-4 and 6 have also been amended to utilize terminology consistent with amended Claim 1 and to more specifically define the voltage detecting circuit and the current detecting circuit. It is believed to be abundantly clear that Applicant's specification, particularly page 3, lines 20 *et seq.*, discloses an electrical adapter capable of displaying at least one of a plurality of electrical parameters, such as voltage value, current value, etc.

In applying the Japanese patent (54-385587) to Applicant's Claims 1-4, the Examiner noted, on page 3, paragraph 3 of the outstanding Office Action, that this patent discloses an electric adapter for "indicating various electrical parameters of the electric appliance". Applicant respectfully traverses this interpretation of the Japanese patent. As clearly noted in the English language abstract of this reference, the device disclosed therein illustrates only the operational time of an electric appliance connected to the adapter. Thus, Applicant submits that this reference could not possibly be interpreted as teaching any means for indicating "various electrical parameters of the electric appliance" as required by Applicant's claims. The Japanese patent discloses an adapter which indicates only the operational time of the appliance and there is no disclosure of any means for either detecting or displaying at least one of a plurality of electrical parameters, such as voltage value, current value, watt, kilowatt-hour, apparent power value and power factor as in Applicant's invention. Indeed, Applicant submits that the Japanese patent does not disclose means for indicating any electrical parameters of the electric appliance, since its sole function is to illustrate the operational time, not provide a display of electrical parameters.

It is further submitted that the Japanese patent does not disclose a control circuit including a central processing unit located within the housing as also required by Applicant's Claims 1-6. The housing of the device disclosed in the Japanese patent encloses a synchronous motor 6, a current detecting coil 5 and a drive unit 7 for driving the hour meter 4. Since the only function of this device is to indicate the operational time of the electric appliance, there is no need for a control circuit including a central processing unit as in Applicant's invention.

The secondary reference to Lebby *et al.* discloses an electrical connector having a display for connecting an information bus to a computer. Lebby *et al.* notes, in column 2, lines 54 *et seq.* that:

In this preferred embodiment the microprocessor in electronics 24 has pre-selected messages stored therein, which are conveyed to display circuitry 30 during operation of electrical connector 15.

Applicant submits that Lebby *et al.* is totally devoid of any structure analogous to Applicant's mode selection switch that is operable from externally of the housing to select which of the plurality of electrical parameters is displayed by the display unit. In Lebby *et al.*, the message displayed depends solely upon the information detected by the electronics 24 within the housing. There is no manual mode to determine which information is displayed on the display unit. Thus, even if Lebby *et al.* were combined with the Japanese patent, as suggested by the Examiner, the resultant combination would be totally devoid of any suggestion of any externally operated mode selection switch as required by Applicant's claims. Indeed, since the Japanese patent suggest only the display of operational time, and Lebby *et al.* suggest displaying information based solely on the sensed conditions, there is no suggestion in either reference that a mode selection switch operable from externally of the housing is either necessary or desired. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1-4 based upon this combination of references.

It is further noted that the cited prior art references are also devoid of a power on/off switch connected to the central processing unit, as required by Applicant's Claim 3, and a control circuit having a voltage detecting circuit, a current detecting circuit and a time based

***Application No. 09/209,012***

signal generator as required by Applicant's Claim 4. Indeed, there is no suggestion in either one of the cited references of such a control circuit wherein the central processing unit receives the voltage value, the current value and the time base signal to calculate a plurality of electrical parameters, as also required by Applicant's Claim 4. The rejection of these claims based upon the cited prior art is respectfully traversed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Bruce H. Troxell  
Reg. No. 26,592

**DOUGHERTY & TROXELL**  
5205 Leesburg Pike, Suite 1404  
Falls Church, Virginia 22041  
Telephone: (703) 575-2711  
Telefax: (703) 575-2707

Date: January 24, 2000